



IDAHO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Dear Parent,

Thank you for the opportunity to update you on the latest developments at the Idaho School for Deaf & Blind.

As you know, the State Board of Education adopted standards for infants, toddlers, children and youth who are blind or visually impaired, deaf or hard of hearing, or deafblind in October of this year. The Board has also asked staff to continue to make sure we have the very best service delivery models for the blind or visually impaired, deaf or hard of hearing and deafblind students in Idaho.

There has been some anticipation that the Board would be reviewing the service delivery models at its December meeting next week in Pocatello. The item is not on the agenda and will not be a part of the Board's work at this time.

I want to assure you that it is our intention to continue to work toward finding the best model that addresses your student's educational needs and the mandate given to the Board from the Office of Performance Evaluation (OPE) in their 2005 and subsequent 2007 reports on the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind.

We have implemented a number of the recommendations as directed in the 2005 & 2007 OPE reports. If we find that legislation is necessary to complete the final service delivery model, we will bring that before the 2009 Legislature for their final approval. Any changes would not take effect at ISDB until July 1, 2009.

Thank you for your on-going support of our role in the educational partnership of your child.

Best regards,

Dr. Mike Rush
Interim Executive Director
Idaho State Board of Education